

OPPOSE SB220 – Assisted Suicide Bill

**Monday, Feb. 11, 2013
10:00 AM
Room 303**

Senate Judiciary Committee Judiciary

Murphy, Terry (R - Ch)
Sales, Scott (R - V Ch)
Augare, Shannon (D)
Blewett, Anders (D)
Boulanger, Scott (R)
Brenden, John (R)
Driscoll, Robyn (D)
Fielder, Jennifer (R)
Jent, Larry (D)
Larsen, Cliff (D)
Vincent, Chas (R)
Wittich, Art (R)

*Judy Tankink
3620 9th Ave N
Great Falls, MT
59401
(406) 761-4729*

SENATE JUDICIARY
EXHIBIT NO. 27
DATE 2/11/13
SB 220

This is a effort to legalize killing as an answer to human suffering through SB 220 which seeks to legalize assisted suicide in Montana. The movement for legalization of assisted suicide is driven by anecdotes of people who suffer greatly in the period before death. But the overwhelming majority of these anecdotes describes either situations for which legal alternatives exist today, or situations in which the individual would not be legally eligible for assisted suicide.

- It is legal in every U.S. state for an individual to create an advance directive that requires the withdrawal of treatment under any conditions the person wishes.
- It is legal for a patient to refuse any treatment or to require any treatment to be withdrawn.
- It is legal to receive sufficient painkillers to be comfortable, even if they might hasten death.
- And if someone who is imminently dying is in significant discomfort, it is legal for the individual to be sedated to the point that the discomfort is relieved.

The very small number of people who may benefit from legalizing assisted suicide will tend to be affluent, white, and in possession of good health insurance coverage. At the same time, large numbers of people, particularly among those less privileged in society, would be at significant risk of harm.

Perhaps the most significant problem is the deadly mix between assisted suicide and profit-driven managed health care (sometimes referred to as Obamacare). According to a new report, the Affordable Care Act has a rapidly emerging health care delivery system that rewards doctors and hospitals for working together to improve quality and rein in costs is serving "roughly 10 percent of the U.S. population." This is called the Accountable Care Organizations (ACOs) which are similar to the 1980's HMOs. These managed care bureaucracies have overruled physicians' treatment decisions. These actions have sometimes hastened patients' deaths. The cost of the lethal medication generally used for assisted suicide is about \$35 to \$50, far cheaper than the cost of treatment for most long-term medical conditions.

The incentive to save money by denying treatment already poses a significant danger. This danger would be far greater if assisted suicide is legal.

Please oppose SB220 – This is not a good bill.

1. The first part of the paper is devoted to the study of the properties of the function $f(x)$ defined by the equation

$$f(x) = \int_0^x f(t) dt$$

where $f(x)$ is a continuous function on the interval $[0, 1]$.

2. The second part of the paper is devoted to the study of the properties of the function $f(x)$ defined by the equation

$$f(x) = \int_0^x f(t) dt + x$$